

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/East Germany

DATE DISTR. 28 June 1955

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Pushkin

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COUNTRY- East Germany

TOPIC Pushkin on the Soviet Readiness to Negotiate

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 15 April 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 28 March 1955, Soviet Ambassador Pushkin received the chairman of political parties licensed in the GDR in order to discuss with them individually the situation resulting from the ratification of the Paris agreements. Each chairman had a one-hour talk with Pushkin who told them that the Soviet government would do everything in its power to ease international tensions at a four-power conference or, if China were admitted, at a five-power conference. Pushkin stated that the nullification of the Paris agreements and the establishment of a European collective security system were the most urgent questions facing European statesmen. These questions could be solved at a conference, patterned after the Africo-Asian conference and attended by West Germany, the GDR, and the USA.
2. Pushkin also dropped a hint that Gromyko, when he recently was in Stockholm, did not only sound out the Swedish attitude toward four- or five-power negotiations but also toward the holding of an all-European conference. The Soviet diplomat appeared to be rather optimistic in this respect.
3. It was learned that Pushkin suggested to Bolz (NDP), Loch (LDP, and Nuschke (CDU-Ost), that they establish closer connections to the bourgeois, progressive and liberal parties in Europe. The same advice was given concerning Western business men and industrialists. Pushkin also stated that the production of atomic weapons would be started in Poland after the Soviet pattern if the Paris agreements were ratified and the London disarmament talks ended in failure. The Soviet diplomat reassured the East German party leaders that the Soviet government closely followed developments in the GDR and was ready to render East Germany any assistance in the building up of a national army if this became possible.

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